<u>**Amendments to the Claims**</u>

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the above-identified application:

<u>**Listing of Claims**</u>

Claims 1-116 (Canceled).

Claim 117 (Currently amended): An information providing apparatus comprising:

a management unit ~~adapted to manage~~ <u>managing</u> settings indicating whether or not to generate abstract of mail text of an electronic mail and maximum number of displayable characters of a communication terminal by associating the settings with address of electronic mail;

a reception unit ~~adapted to receive~~ <u>receiving</u> electronic mail data addressed to a communication terminal;

a first determining unit ~~adapted to determine~~ <u>determining</u>, by referring to the management unit, whether the number of characters of mail text of the electronic mail data received by said reception unit exceeds the maximum number of displayable characters of the addressed communication terminal;

a second determination unit ~~adapted to~~ <u>determining</u>, when said first determination unit determines that the number of characters of the mail text exceeds the maximum number of displayable characters, ~~determine~~ whether settings corresponding to the addressed communication terminal indicates that an abstract is to be generated, by referring to the management unit;

a first generation unit ~~adapted to~~ generating, when said second determination unit determines that the setting indicates to generate an abstract, ~~generate~~ an abstract of the mail text as text to be sent;

a second generation unit ~~adapted to~~ generating, when said second determination unit determines that the setting indicates not to generate an abstract, ~~generate~~ text to be sent by cutting characters which exceed the maximum number of displayable characters; and

a sending unit ~~adapted to send~~ sending the text to be sent generated by said first or second generation unit to the addressed communication terminal.

Claim 118 (Previously presented):   The apparatus according to claim 117, wherein the communication terminal includes a portable telephone.

Claim 119 (Previously presented):   An information providing method comprising:

a management step of managing settings indicating whether or not to generate abstract of mail text of an electronic mail and maximum number of displayable characters of a communication terminal by associating the settings with address of electronic mail;

a reception step of receiving electronic mail data addressed to a communication terminal;

a first determination step of determining, by referring to the managing in the management step, whether the number of characters of mail text of the electronic mail data received in said reception step exceeds the maximum number of displayable characters of the addressed communication terminal;

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a second determination step of determining, when it is determined in said first determination step that the number of characters of the mail text exceeds the maximum number of displayable characters, whether settings corresponding to the addressed communication terminal indicates that an abstract is to be generated, by referring to the managing in the managing step;

a first generation step of generating an abstract of the mail text as text to be sent when it is determined in said second determination step that the setting indicates to generate an abstract;

a second generation step of generating text to be sent by cutting characters which exceed the maximum number of displayable characters, when it is determined in said second determination step that the setting indicates not to generate an abstract; and

a sending step of sending the text generated in said first or second generation step to the addressed communication terminal.

Claim 120 (Previously presented):   The method according to claim 119, wherein the communication terminal includes a portable telephone.

Claim 121 (Currently amended):   A computer program stored on a computer-readable storage medium for causing a computer to execute the information providing method of claim 119.

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Claim 122 (Currently amended):   A computer readable <u>storage</u> medium storing a computer-executable program for causing a computer to execute the information providing method of claim 119.

Claim 123 (Currently amended):   A computer program stored on a computer-readable <u>storage</u> medium in accordance with claim 121, wherein the communication terminal includes a portable telephone.

Claim ~~123~~ <u>124</u> (Currently amended): A computer readable <u>storage</u> medium storing a computer-executable program in accordance with claim 122, wherein the communication terminal includes a portable telephone.